

Filed for intro on 04/12/1999

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 34 of the First Extraordinary Session
By Bowers

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Bishop J. O. Patterson, Jr. upon his election as Vice Chairman of the General Assembly of the Church of God in Christ.

WHEREAS, the Church of God in Christ has its world headquarters in Memphis, Tennessee, where it holds an annual Holy Convocation; and

WHEREAS, Bishop J. O. Patterson, Jr., grandson of Bishop C. H. Mason, founder of the Church of God in Christ, was recently elected Vice Chairman of the General Assembly of the Church of God in Christ; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Patterson was born May 28, 1935 in Memphis, the son of the late James Oglethorpe Patterson, Sr. and Deborah M. Patterson; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Patterson received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee in 1958; a Master of Religion Degree in 1985 from Memphis Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree in 1963 from DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Patterson practiced law and then became active in state and local political life as a State Representative for two years, a State Senator for six years, a Memphis City Councilman for twenty years and as interim Mayor of the City of Memphis; and

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 7034

00506556

WHEREAS, he also served as a delegate in the Tennessee Constitutional Convention and as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1972, 1976 and 1980; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Patterson serves his community and church in many capacities; he is President of J. O. Patterson Mortuary, Inc., and is also a contributing writer for the Official COGIC Manual, a member of the COGIC Legal Counsel, a member of the Board of Directors of Saints Center, a member of the Board of Directors of the C. H. Mason Foundation, and an advisor to COGIC International Women's Convention; and

WHEREAS, he has diligently served the church as Elder; District Superintendent; Auxiliary Bishop, Tennessee Headquarters Jurisdiction; Pastor, Pentecostal Temple Church of God in Christ; and now serves as Vice Chairman, General Assembly of the Church of God in Christ; and

WHEREAS, on Monday, April 12, 1999 a gala dinner is being held at the Marriott Hotel in Memphis to celebrate the recent election of Bishop Patterson to the office of Vice Chairman of the COGIC General Assembly, where Chandler D. Owens, Presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ, will deliver the banquet address; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body join with the members of the Church of God in Christ, the people of Memphis and the citizens of the state of Tennessee in observing this celebration; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the members of this General Assembly congratulate Bishop J. O. Patterson, Jr. upon his recent election as Vice Chairman of the General Assembly of the Church of God in Christ and commend him for his life of dedicated service to God and his fellow human beings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

